GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3715
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2016
Ground Water Regulation
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has circulated a Model Bill to all the States/ UTs to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation for its regulation and development, if so, the details and the salient features thereof;
(b) whether any States/UTs have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation on the lines of Model Bill, if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government is taking any steps to ensure that all the States strictly implement the provisions of the said Bill; and
(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the States in this regard, if any?

Answer

(a) to (d) The Union Government circulated a Model Bill in 1970 to all the States/UTs to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation for its regulation and development, which includes provision for rain water harvesting. The Model Bill was re-circulated in 1992, 1996 and again in 2005 for adoption. The Model Bill stipulates :
â€¢ Establishing of State Ground Water Authorities to frame policies for administration of the legislation.
â€¢ Empowering the State/Union Territory Government to control and/ or regulate the abstraction of Ground Water.
â€¢ Requiring users of ground water to seek permission from the State Ground Water Authority to sink a well in the notified area.
In the revised Model Bill circulated in 2005, a new chapter on Rain Water Harvesting for Recharge to ground water has also been introduced. So far, 15 States/UTs have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation on the lines of Model bill. Details are given at Annexure.
Water being a State subject, necessary steps to implement the model Bill are undertaken by the state Governments.
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ANNEXURE
Annexure referred in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Q.No. 3715 for reply on 08.12.2016 regarding "Ground Water Regulation"
Status of Enactment of Model Bill by States/ UTs
A: States Where Legislation For Regulation Of Ground Water Development Has Been Enacted

S. No.	States/ UTs	S. No.	States/ UTs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8.	Jammu & Kashmir
2.	Assam	9.	Karnataka
3.	Bihar	10.	Kerala
4.	Chandigarh	11.	Lakshadweep
5.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	12.	Puducherry
6.	Goa	13.	West Bengal
7.	Himachal Pradesh	14	Telangana
		15	

Maharashtra
B: States Where Initiatives Taken For Enactment Of Model Bill
1.
Andaman & Nicobar
9.
Meghalaya
2.
Chhattisgarh
10.
Mizoram
3.
Daman & Diu
11.
Odisha
4.
NCT Delhi#
12.
Rajasthan
5.
Gujarat
13.
Uttarakhand
6.
Haryana
14.
Uttar Pradesh
7.
Jharkhand
15.
Punjab
8.
Madhya Pradesh
16.
Tamil Nadu*
#Govt. of NCT Delhi is regulating ground water withdrawal through notification
* Tamil Nadu Ground Water (Development and Management) Act, 2003 has been repealed by the State Government of Tamil Nadu through Ordinance No. 4 of 2013, dated 14.09.2013
C: States/UTs Which Do Not Feel The Need For Enactment Of Legislation
1.
Arunachal Pradesh
2.
Manipur
3.
Nagaland
4.
Sikkim
5.
Tripura